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CPRA Extends Deadline to Submit Public Input on Draft Oyster Lease Acquisition and Compensation Program Recommendations

BATON ROUGE, **LA** – The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is extending the deadline for the public to submit views regarding CPRA's draft recommendations for improvements to the Oyster Lease Acquisition and Compensation Program (OLACP). The new submittal deadline is December 11, 2020.

OLACP authorizes compensation to oyster lessees when state oyster leases are acquired for dredging, direct placement of materials, or other activities necessary for construction or maintenance of integrated coastal protection projects. CPRA administers OLACP. CPRA is studying potential improvements to OLACP including requesting and evaluating the views and comments of the oyster industry and other coastal stakeholders.

On November 6, 2020, CPRA published its draft recommendations for improvements to OLACP, which may be found here. CPRA is again requesting that stakeholders provide their views regarding these draft recommendations. CPRA will prepare and submit a written report to the CPRA Board by January 11, 2021, stating CPRA's findings pursuant to this study, evaluating the views submitted, and making specific recommendations to the Board for improving OLACP. CPRA will provide the report to all participants via email and make it available on CPRA's website at https://coastal.la.gov/calendar/.

The original deadline to submit views regarding CPRA's draft recommendations was December 4, 2020. However, at the request of some stakeholders, CPRA is extending this deadline by one week due to COVID-19 and the holidays.

Views regarding CPRA's draft recommendations may be submitted at any time through December 11, 2020. Views may be submitted via email to coastal@la.gov or via telephone voicemail message to (225) 342-4968.